



## United States Department of the Interior

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Arizona Ecological Services Office

2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103

Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951

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In reply refer to:

AESO/SE

02EAAZ00-2016-TA-0164

December 18, 2015

Larry Maurin  
Air Permits Office (AIR-3)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Maurin:

Thank you for your December 17, 2015, email. You requested our review of the Refined Coal Treatment System (RCTS) project at Salt River Project's Navajo Generating Station, in compliance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). The U.S. EPA is considering issuing a Tribal Minor New Source Review permit for the RCTS, under the Clean Air Act.

This project is located within the existing NGS plant boundaries east of Page, on the Navajo Nation, in Coconino County, Arizona, and includes construction and operation of a system that will add calcium bromide and cement kiln dust to coal prior to it being pulverized and combusted at the plant.

Based on the information that you have provided, the Fish and Wildlife Service believes that no endangered or threatened species or critical habitat will be affected by the project; nor is it likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any proposed species or adversely modify any proposed critical habitat. No further review is required for the project at this time. Should project plans change or if additional information on the distribution of listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may need to be reconsidered.

We appreciate your coordination with us on this matter. In future communication regarding this project, please refer to consultation number 02EAAZ00-2016-TA-0164. In keeping with our trust responsibilities to American Indian Tribes, by copy of this letter/memorandum, we are copying the Navajo Nation and Hopi, which may be affected by this proposed action and encourage you to invite the Bureau of Indian Affairs to participate in the review of your proposed action. If you have any questions, please contact John Nystedt (928-556-2160) or his supervisor, Brenda Smith (556-2157), of our Flagstaff Suboffice.

Mr. Larry Maurin

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Sincerely,



Steven L. Spangle  
Field Supervisor

cc: Director, Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife, Window Rock, AZ  
Tribal Attorney, Navajo Nation, Window Rock, AZ  
Manager, Department of Natural Resources, Hopi Tribe, Kykotsmovi, AZ  
Tribal Attorney, Hopi Tribe, Kykotsmovi, AZ  
Branch Chief, Environmental Quality Services, Western Regional Office, Bureau of Indian  
Affairs, Phoenix, AZ

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